



THE WEEKLY

*Warrior*

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

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## The Value of a Catholic Education

As someone who has worked in both public education (29 years) and Catholic education (10 years), I am often reminded of the difference between the two. While I was fortunate to have worked in and lead some very good public high schools and districts, there is one significant difference between the two, and it goes beyond the crucifix on the wall, theology class, mass, uniforms, and prayer. It all begins with formation.

All schools are challenged with formation. Whether it is in the formation of good students, citizens, leaders, musicians, artists, athletes, etc., you will find this being done in schools across our country, public, private or parochial. Some will do it better than others. At JPPII we like to think we check the box on all of those formation goals and are considered by any measure a very good school. However, what sets us apart from all others, and I believe is the true value of a Catholic school, is found in the final letter in our SHIELD values, **D**iscipleship.

“Disciple” comes from the Greek word that means, “to learn.” Over time this word would describe the student-teacher relationship. Jesus, through his teachings, commanded his 12 disciples to share His teachings and proclaim the Gospel. Ultimately, Christianity is based on the success of this student-teacher relationship. The Great Commission is about one command, to go and make disciples.

*Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

In a Catholic school our ultimate goal is to make disciples. Simple as it may seem, it is likely the most challenging of all our core values to attain, yet critical to the continuing role of faith in our student’s lives. For a disciple is challenged to not only maintain a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, but to proclaim the Gospel to others through their faith and good works. While I may be able to promise we will reach our goal of 100% college acceptance in most years, I cannot promise 100% of our graduates will lead a life of discipleship. However, what I do know is that through our intentional commitment to the formation of disciples, we stand a better chance than most schools. And that, my friends, is the true value of a Catholic education.

## Advent Families Donation

Our Houses are sponsoring 4 deserving families in an effort to spread Christmas cheer throughout this season of Advent. Mentors have listed a link on their house Google Classroom pages for JP11 families to sign up for donations. All items are due to the house mentor or dean by **Monday, December 11** as gifts will be delivered to the families on Friday. If you're not sure how to access the sign ups and you'd like to contribute, send in a gift card for up to \$25 by Monday.

## From the Sports Desk

**Girls Varsity Basketball** had another victory on the road beating Andrew Jackson 58-32. After getting off to a slow start the girls rebounded and played well down the stretch. In typical Brady Mahoney fashion, she poured in 15 points and 13 rebounds. Cayce Graves is playing great basketball on both ends, having 11 points and 5 steals. Lily Termini had a big night with 9 points and 10 rebounds. This takes our record to 6-2. We are gearing up for St Joseph's this Friday.

We played tough all game on Saturday to beat a scrappy Battery Creek team, 58-30. Everyone played quality minutes. Defense was the highlight of the game. Our pressure created a lot of steals and forced turnovers. Brady Mahoney led the team with 27 points and 9 rebounds. Gracie Henderson added 9 points. Cayce Graves had a complete game handling and distributing the ball with 4 points, 5 assists, 5 rebounds, and 4 steals.

### Girls JV Basketball

JP11 JV girls' basketball team defeated Palmetto Christian Academy Monday night 49-22. It was truly a team victory as everyone played great defense and contributed in different ways. Offensively, Hollis Melnick led the team in scoring with 12 points, followed by Ellie Heathcott with 10, Gabby Heathcott 9, Rachael Breneman 8, Bella Del Mazo and Megan Fox with 4 and Madison Burke with 2 points. Chase Brienza had a great rebounding night and Millie Cornejo and Kiera Doran played great defensively.

**Girls Middle School Basketball** lost a tough game last night vs Riverview by the score of 29-59. Annalise Litchfield led the team with 7 out of the 18 rebounds, while Alivia Ogden led the team in scoring with 11 points. The girls have their next game at home, on Tuesday December 12th against Hardeeville at 4:30.

**Boys Varsity Basketball** played their third road game in five days, the Golden Warriors outlasted a game Andrew Jackson Academy team 63-57. The see-saw affair entered halftime on a Christian Tilton bucket which deadlocked the score at 30-30. JP2 then seized control early in the 3rd quarter and never trailed throughout the second half. All five starters played the entire second half and made key contributions down the stretch, highlighted by a pair of late buckets by James Keefer. The boys return to their homecourt for a Friday/Saturday doubleheader versus St. Joseph's Catholic out of Greenville and Bethesda Academy.

The Golden Warriors Boys Varsity played their most complete game of the season Monday evening defeating the Screaming Eagles of Palmetto Christian 61-28. JP11 used stifling full-court pressure and consistently found the open man on offense all night as all 13 players in uniform saw game action.

The Golden Warriors played their first true road game of the year Saturday afternoon at Battery Creek High School and lost a hard-fought contest, 55-46. A sluggish start resulted in a 13-point halftime deficit. Improved play in the 3rd quarter and the first half of the 4th saw the Battery Creek lead trimmed to 43-41 on a 3-ball by James Keefer. But the momentum stalled out on some turnovers and missed opportunities late in the game. The team was led in scoring by junior Nicholai Atkinson's 19 points.

**Boys JV Basketball** were on the road Monday taking on the Eagles from Palmetto Christian. The Warriors jumped out to a quick start behind a strong full court pressure and took a 39-25 lead into the half. The Warriors kept the pressure up in the second half, led by 16 points from freshman Alan Wolf and 11 points from sophomore Stewart Misko. The Eagles made a late run to cut into the lead, but the Warriors held on for the 54-44 victory. The JV Boys improved to 5-2 on the season.

**Boys Middle School Basketball** defeated Riverview Charter School by a score of 57-34 on Tuesday. The Golden Warriors were led in the scoring column by Leiland Fripp who scored 19 points on an incredible 8 of 9 shooting. Zachary Moulton controlled the boards with a team high 9 rebounds. Chase Cotter contributed with 17 points. 10 different Warriors found the scoring column as they led the game throughout. Boys Middle School Basketball returns to action at home on Saturday against Bethesda Academy at 1 p.m.

Last week the middle school boys won the SFCS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TIP-OFF CLASSIC. We beat Holy Trinity on Tuesday 48-19, then defeated Cross Schools on Thursday 58-27 to advance to the Championship game. We then defeated Coastal Homeschool out of Georgia 33-29 to win the Championship. All the kids played very well and we had excellent performances from Chase Cotter, Leiland Fripp, and Zachary Moulton. We are 5-1 in the young season.

**Wrestling** traveled to Colleton High Wednesday night where they faced off against the Cougars in a dual match. The Warrior squad pulled out the victory with a 48-30 team score. Leading the team were Daniel Snyder & Brian Orta who had pins over their opponents. Also, earning wins by forfeit were Jase Reynolds, Bailey Homer, Jack Hannagan, Bryant Jolley, Alex Mercer, & Renzo Cedeno. The team is now 5-3 on the season in dual matches. The Warrior wrestling team is back in action this Saturday at the Northwood Academy Duals.

The JP2 Wrestling team competed at the Hammond Holiday Hustle Dual Tourney on Saturday and wrestled tough all day to finish with a 3-2 record against their SCISA foes. In Round 1, the Warrior Wrestling team kicked off the day by defeating the defending SCISA state duals champions Ben Lippen School by a score of 54-27. In the 2nd round, JP2 beat Augusta Christian by a score of 66 to 6. The wrestlers lost their first dual of the tourney in the 3rd round in a close match to Columbia power Hammond School by a score of 48 to 34. The Warriors rebounded in the 4th round with a 48 – 30 win over Heathwood Hall. In the final round of the day, the Warriors fell to Cardinal Newman 66 – 18.

Wrestlers of the week are Chris Orta, who went 4-1 with 4 pins, Alex Mercer, who went 5-1 with 4 pins, and Daniel Snyder who went 4-1 with 2 pins and a major decision between the dual tourney and Wednesday's Beaufort Tri- meet. Also leading the team with winning records for the weekend duals were Bryant Jolley 2-0, Gavin Byrne 2-0, Aadi Patel 1-0, Reynaldo Hernandez 2-0, Tripp Thiesen 3-2, Brian Orta 3-2, Jackson Reilley 2-1, Jack Hannagan 3-2, KP Santos 2-1, Chase Lafountain, Renzo Cedeno 2-2, Ryan Bertagna 3-3,

## **NCCA Eligibility and Recruitment Seminar**

The second seminar in JP II's parent information series will take place on **December 11 at 8:30am in the Athletic Center**. Collegiate athletics can be an exciting and difficult process for student-athletes and their families. Athletes are best supported working together with parents/guardians, coaches, and college counselors to ensure the best outcome.

Join JP II as we welcome USCB Director of Athletic Compliance Shawn Becker, Coach Cory Cottrell (USCB Men's and Women's Golf), and Coach Ron Fudala (USCB Men's Basketball). The panel will also include Cara Buckland, JP II director of counseling & student support services as well as members of the JP II Athletic Department. This

is a parent-only event. All parents, regardless, if they are JP II parents or not, are welcome to this important seminar. Please invite your friends and neighbors who may be interested in this topic.

If you have any questions, please contact JP II Asst. Athletic Director Stephen Gaylets at [stephen.gaylets@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:stephen.gaylets@johnpaul2school.org)

## JP II Christmas Concert

Under the direction of Mrs. Emily Brown, the JP II Choirs will be presenting a **Christmas Concert on December 14 at 7:30pm** in the Commons. This event is free and open to the public, so we expect a possible packed house. Do not miss out on what is sure to become a new holiday tradition at JP II.

# JP II CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 7:30 PM**

JOIN THE JP II CHOIRS IN THE COMMONS FOR AN EVENING  
OF ADVENT PRAYER, SPECIAL MUSIC, AND CAROL SING-  
ALONGS

LIGHT RECEPTION TO FOLLOW  
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## First Semester Exam Schedule

All students in grades 9-11 are required to take first semester exams. Because of their senior project requirement, first and second semester exams are optional for all seniors. A senior may choose to take an exam if s/he feels it could help to raise her/his semester grade.

High school students who are taking an AP class are required to report to her/his AP class during their regularly scheduled AP block. If a student receives an Unexcused Absence for a missed AP exam block, she/he earns a zero for all missed work that day.

Middle school students are ONLY taking exams for high school credit classes. This includes PreAP English I, PreAP Algebra I, PreAP Geometry & Statistics, and Spanish I/Mandarin I. However, middle school teachers will be using their exam period to administer an end of unit test, have students give a presentation, or complete instruction prior to break.

## *2023 1st Semester Exam Schedule*

### **Monday, December 18**

8:25-9:45am	Block A
9:50-11:05am	Block B
11:10-12:25am	Block C
12:30pm	Dismissal

### **Tuesday, December 19**

8:25-9:45am	Block E
9:50-11:05am	Block F
11:10-12:25am	Block G
12:30pm	Dismissal

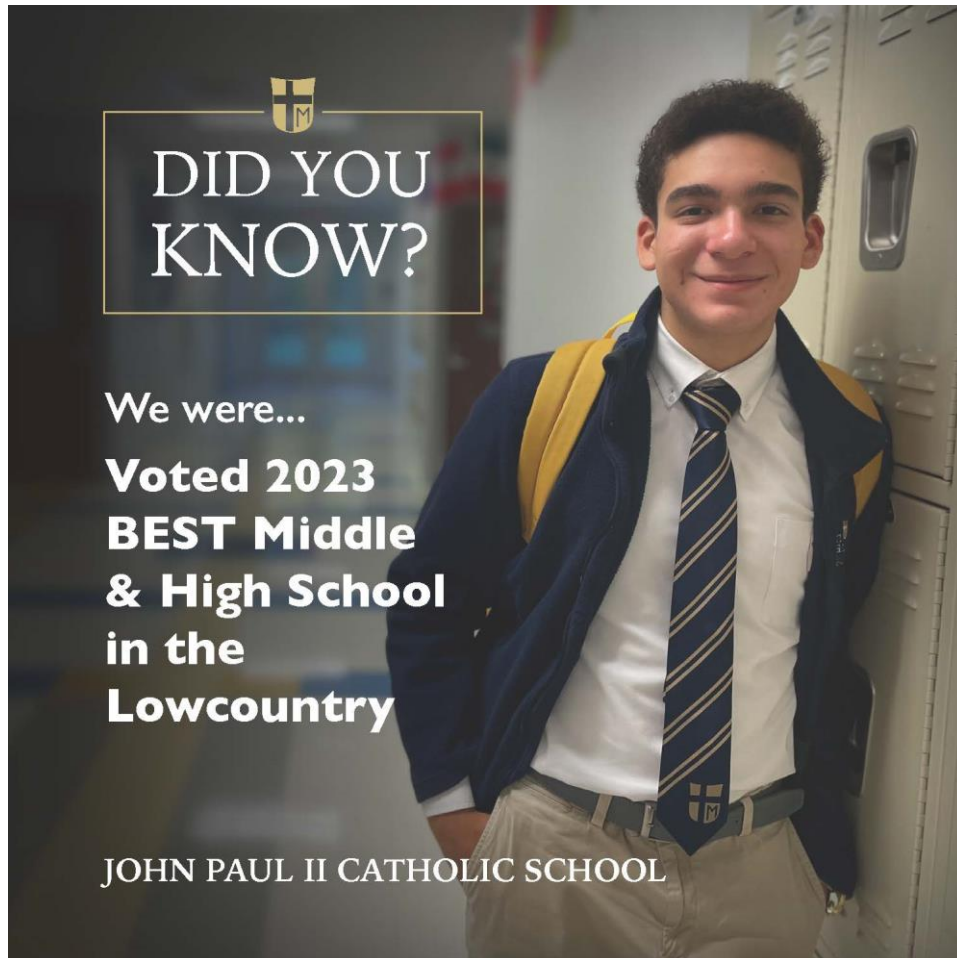
### **Wednesday, December 20**

8:25-9:45am	Block D
9:50-11:05am	Block H
11:15am	Dismissal



## Did You Know?

Over the next 13 weeks, JPII is launching an admissions marketing campaign called *Did you Know*. The goal is to spread the good news about a JPII education to those who, even though they may be familiar with our school, are not fully aware of all of the things that make our school what it is. These messages are being shared through social media (Facebook and Instagram) and we ask parents to like and share to all their “Friends”. We are all responsible for sharing the good news and building out our school with all those who will benefit from a Catholic education. Below is our first post.



Have a great weekend.

In His Purpose,

President

